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original. However, we are very glad to see that, with the same filial respect for parental authority (would that all authors of legal works had such authority to be respected) as was shown in the second edition of the same book, the work of the father has been left intact and separated from the notes and additions rendered necessary by the growth of the law.

We do not say the above with any idea of giving anyone the liberty of drawing the conclusion that the necessary notes and additions are at all carelessly written, for the very opposite is the fact. They are written in a most skillful and scholarly manner, as might be expected from the pen of a man with the ability already proven and still the modesty shown instead of the self-sufficient audacity above referred to.

The Editor apologizes for the bulkiness of the work. Upon considering the great scope of the subject, the enormous growth of it since the last edition, and the extreme thoroughness of treatment, both as to the annotations and the citations, we think that he is to be congratulated for having kept the work down to the physical proportions that it now has. The most lengthy annotations occur under the subjects of the Jurisdiction to avoid a Multiplicity of Suits, the Equity Jurisdiction of the United States Courts, and special topics under Notice, Priorities, and Bona Fide Purchase.

The work is referred to as a "Standard text-book." It certainly is standard, and for the earnest lawyer and the diligent student it is a text-book, but the great exhaustiveness of the work has rendered it somewhat bulky for a class-room text-book. However, this same great exhaustiveness renders it one of the best of reference works, so that the very high reputation with the profession which the former editions have occupied in this respect is not only sure to be maintained, but also just as certain to be increased. Another feature that makes it still more valuable for purposes of reference is the thoroughness with which the citations are collected and applied, and the fact that in doing this the so-called standard encyclopedias and digests are not trusted implicitly.

The insertion of states in the index, as was done in the previous edition, also saves much time for the busy lawyer and his overworked understudy.

S. W. B.

Page on Contracts. By William Herbert Page, Professor of Law in the Ohio State University and Author of "Page on Wills." The W. H. Anderson Co., Cincinnati, 1905. Three volumes. Sheep, pages ccclxv, 3083.

"Page on Contracts" is an evident, and, we believe, successful, attempt to delve into every crevice of contract law (or, at least, of *American* contract law), and to present a treatise, complete up to the present time, in every detail. In this respect it bears a close resemblance to "Wigmore on Evidence," and, although it differs in many other features (as, for instance, the valuable digested cases with which Wigmore abounds and of which the book under

discussion is totally lacking), yet these differences are rather due to the subjects of the respective books than to any lack of research on the part of Professor Page. To this the four hundred page table of cases, in fine type—cases, a number of which we have examined and found strictly in point—bear witness. If our observation, just made, concerning the cases examined, is true of all—and we have no reason to believe it is not—the work, being of such magnitude, is an especial credit to Professor Thayer. For, if we may be allowed a digression, we have been impressed with what seems to be a rapidly increasing tendency, especially in works of large paging, to follow the citations of the different encyclopedias. Sometimes, though perhaps not often, these citations fail to support the proposition for which they are given, but very frequently the cases are there cited under headings different from those under which they logically should fall. Every man's opinion on these matters is individual to himself, so that it seems to suggest lack of research when table after table of cases, in many recent publications, are cited as authority for only those statements for which they act in the same capacity in encyclopedias, even though they are equal or better authority for other points. This seems to be true among some of the encyclopedias themselves. This criticism does not, we think, apply to "Page on Contracts."

Following the plan of most modern text-writers, he starts with a brief historical introduction; enlarging that plan he discusses chronologically those branches of his subject which yield to that treatment, such as Usury, the Seal, Specific Performance, and Limitations. Sometimes he seems to have spent too much space in these introductions and to a few other parts of his work—to have sacrificed conciseness to coherence. For instance, the discussion of the case of Abbot Walter and Gilbert de Baillol, while interesting, and undoubtedly of bearing upon the subject (History of the Seal), might have been wholly relegated to the notes without any integral loss to the work.

The established order of most writings on contracts is followed, *i. e.*, Formation, Construction, Operation, and Discharge. Each of these titles, except the last two, occupies a separate volume, and, in his treatment of each, the author necessarily wanders somewhat into the allied branches of the law. On the whole, however, he maintains an excellent unity, and everything of contracts, such as the law of Sales, receives full attention.

G. S. A.

Leading Cases in the Bible. By David Werner Amram, M. A., L. L. B. Julius H. Greenstone, Philadelphia, 1905. Cloth, pages 220.

While the Bible has been quoted from by lawyers of all generations—though it must be confessed that latterly it has been used overextensively to give an emotional assistance to weak defenses in criminal courts—the idea of selecting its